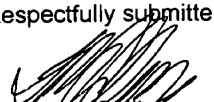
lighting of a transparent or a translucent surface by placing a light source within a frame and contacting the light source with an eroded transparent or translucent surface. An opaque reflective backing surface provides that the available light from the light source will be available to a transparent or translucent surface. The transparent or translucent surface is eroded in one or more places to provide contrasting images on the transparent or translucent surface. The effect of the presently claimed invention is to provide a three dimensional image emanating from the front of, for example, a picture frame. The image is obtained by etching a glass surface and passing light through the etched glass with the reflective opaque backing sheet further reflecting light through the eroded glass surface. Moreover, the etched glass may be painted and as well the opaque backing sheet may be painted to further enhance the three dimensional image. None of the foregoing is taught in the Schöniger et al. patent.

The Schöniger et al. patent does not teach a reflective surface and the Torrence patent does not provide a reason to obtain a reflective surface.

Summary

Claims 1, Claims 3 through 14 inclusive, and claims 16 through 18 inclusive are pending and reconsideration is requested, and removal, of the rejections made in the present Official Action. Should questions concerning this application arise the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to advance prosecution of this application. The applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and such is earnestly solicited. Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification and the claims by the current amendment. The attached sequentially numbered pages are entitled VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification

Paragraph beginning at Page 4 paragraph beginning at line 17 has been amended as follows:

Light ropes useful in the present invention are available from [sales@nsl-ltg.com] sales@nsl-ltg dot com telephone 800-527-2923 or 303-926-1100, facsimile 800-527-4358 303-926-0011 and through [http://www.nsl-ltg.com/lightrope/lrope.html] http://www.nsl-ltg dot com/lightrope/lrope dot html.

Paragraph beginning at Page 8 paragraph beginning at line 5 has been amended as follows:

The framed eroded glasses 10 are furthered denominated separately as eroded glass 20, eroded glass 30, and eroded glass 40. The framed eroded glass 20 is retained in a framing unit 22, the framed eroded glass 30 is retained in a framing unit 32 and the framed eroded glass 40 is retained in a framing unit 34 [42].

Paragraph beginning at Page 9 paragraph beginning at line 8 has been amended as follows:

A string of rope lights 12 shown in the channel 94. The rope lights 12 are available from [sales@nsl-ltg.com] sales@nsl-ltg dot com. The rope lights 12 may be connected in parallel or series but to avoid the 'Christmas tree problem' parallel lighting is preferred.

Paragraph beginning at Page 9 paragraph beginning at line 11 has been amended as follows:

As best seen in Figure 4 is a cross section a portion of the framing unit 22. The frame shown in Figure 4 is that of a picture frame. A wall relief extension 128 is fixedly connected to the outer side walls 52. Additional wall relief extensions 128 may be added outer top wall 56 and the outer bottom wall 58 and at other portions of the outer side walls 52. The wall relief extension 128 p rmits the dissipation of heat when the

rope light 12 is in use in the framed eroded glasses 10. The piece of engraved glass 120 has an inward facing eroded surface 122.

In the Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (Amended) A lighting system comprising:

a frame member;

said frame member having a void portion;

an electrical light source emitter for emitting an electrical light;

said void for at least partially receiving said electrical light source emitter;

an eroded [a] transparent or translucent glass member;

said eroded [a] transparent or translucent glass member disposed such that said electrical light source emitter, when emitting light, substantially contacts said eroded transparent or translucent glass member;

a reflective [an] opaque glass backing member located within said void portion;

provided further that said reflective opaque glass backing member does not substantially interfere with the transmission of electrical light from said electrical light source emitter through said eroded transparent or translucent glass member.

Cancel claim 2.

3. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein said electrical light source emitter for emitting an electrical light extends substantially around the void.

4. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein said eroded transparent or translucent glass member has a lengthwise dimension, a heightwise dimension, a widthwise dimension, said heightwise dimension and said widthwise dimension at least partially defining, a forward surface of said eroded transparent or translucent glass member and a rear surface of said transparent or translucent glass member.

5. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein said eroded transparent or translucent glass member is transparent.

6. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein said eroded transparent or translucent glass member is translucent.

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

Claim 7 (Amended) The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said eroded transparent glass member, said eroded translucent glass member, or said reflective opaque glass backing member is at least partially painted.

8. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein said void at least partially receives said eroded transparent or translucent glass member.

9. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein said electrical light source emitter for emitting an electrical light is a rope light.

10. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein the frame member is a picture frame.

11. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein the frame member is a window frame.

12. The lighting system according to claim 1 wherein said eroded transparent or translucent glass member at least partially retains said electrical light source emitter within said void.

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

Claim 13 (Amended) A lighting system comprising:

a frame member;

said frame member having a void portion;

an electrical light source emitter for emitting an electrical light;

said void for at least partially receiving said electrical light source emitter;

at least one eroded transparent or translucent glass member;

a reflective [an] opaque glass backing member located within said void portion;

said electrical light source emitter, when emitting light, disposed between said eroded transparent or translucent glass member, and said reflective opaque glass backing member;

provided further that said reflective opaque glass backing member does not substantially interfere with the transmission of electrical light from said electrical light source emitter through said eroded transparent or translucent glass member.

14. The lighting system according to claim 13 wherein said electrical light source emitter is at least partially retained within said void by pressure from said eroded transparent or translucent glass member.

Cancel claim 15.

Claim 16 has been amended as follows:

Claim 16 (Amended) The lighting system according to claim 13 wherein at least one of said transparent glass member, said, translucent glass member, or said reflective opaque glass backing member is at least partially painted.

17. The lighting system according to claim 13 wherein there is a single transparent or translucent glass member.

Claim 18 has been amended as follows:

Claim 18 (Amended) A method of lighting comprising:

emitting an electrical light generated by an electrical light source emitter from within a frame member;

said frame member having a void portion;

said frame member further comprising at least one decorative eroded transparent or translucent glass member, and at least one decorative reflective opaque glass backing member wherein the emitted electrical light passes through at least one of said decorative eroded transparent or translucent glass member and reflects from said decorative reflective opaque glass backing surface.